

*REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**The Pending Claims*

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-12, and 15 are currently pending and are directed to a method of treating osteoporosis by the inhibition of vacuolar-type (H⁺)-ATPase.

Summary of the Claim Amendments

Claims 1 and 6 have been amended to recite a patient "in need thereof." In accordance with the election made September 14, 2004, claim 1 also has been amended to clarify that Z comprises carbon atoms. Claims 3 and 4 have been amended to delete non-elected subject matter. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments.

Summary of the Office Action

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-12, and 15 have been objected to. Reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Request for Rejoinder

Since the Examiner has not found any art that anticipates or renders obvious the subject matter of the pending claims, Applicants respectfully request rejoinder of the non-elected conditions (e.g., urinary acidification, bone resorption, fertility, angiogenesis, glaucoma, and Alzheimer's disease). As discussed in the specification, urinary acidification, bone resorption, fertility, angiogenesis, glaucoma, Alzheimer's disease, and osteoporosis are all treatable by compounds that inhibit vacuolar-type (H⁺)-ATPase, such as a compound of formula (I). Thus, these conditions are linked by a common mechanism with osteoporosis, which has been found allowable in view of the prior art. As such, Applicants seek rejoinder of these conditions with the present application.

Discussion of the Claim Objections

Claims 1 and 6 have been objected to allegedly for not clearly defining the claimed subject matter. As discussed with the Examiner, claims 1 and 6 have been amended to recite a patient that is "in need thereof."

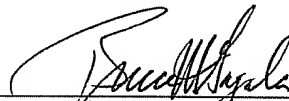
Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-12, and 15 have been objected to for containing non-elected subject matter. As discussed above, claims 1, 3, and 4 have been amended to recite administration of compounds in which Z is a contiguous linker comprising a chain of 7-10 carbon atoms.

In view of the foregoing, the claim objections have been overcome.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the patent application is in condition for allowance. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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